

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An extrusion head for the production of a tubular multilayer preform of softened thermoplastic material with at least one viewing strip of translucent material extending in the extrusion direction, comprising an annular passage arrangement including a plurality of annular passages in mutually concentric relationship and forming mutually separate flow paths for material forming the various layers of the multilayer preform, at least two feed paths for feeding plastic material from at least one extruder to the annular passage arrangement, an annular gap nozzle having an annular gap communicating with the annular passage arrangement, and at least one flow passage radially opening into an annular passage of the annular passage arrangement for introducing material forming the viewing strip, the flow passage opening upstream of the annular gap in the region of separation of the flow paths, said flow passage being provided by a flow divider, the flow divider including a flow passage bore which extends transversely therethrough with respect to the extrusion direction and which establishes flow passage communication with said annular passage.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) An extrusion head as set forth in claim 1 including an annular storage space operatively interposed between the annular passage

arrangement and the annular gap of the annular gap nozzle, the flow passage radially opening into said annular passage upstream of the storage space.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) An extrusion head as set forth in claim 1 ~~including a flow divider, the flow passage communicating with said annular passage by way of the flow divider~~ wherein said flow divider includes an extension portion and an opening for said flow passage bore, including a roof disposed above said opening.

Claim 4. (Original) An extrusion head as set forth in claim 3 wherein the annular passage arrangement includes an outer annular passage, and the flow divider is arranged in the outer annular passage operably to effect complete division in the axial direction of the extrudate flowing through said outer annular passage.

Claim 5. (Original) An extrusion head as set forth in claim 1 wherein the annular passages communicate directly with the annular gap of the annular gap nozzle.

Claim 6. (Original) An extrusion head as set forth in claim 2 wherein said annular storage space is operatively disposed upstream of said annular gap and including an annular piston in which the annular passage arrangement is provided.

Claim 7. (Original) An extrusion head as set forth in claim 1 wherein the annular passage arrangement has first, second and third annular passages comprising an inner annular

passage and first and second outer passages, wherein the outer annular passages are brought together upstream of the opening of the inner annular passage into the annular gap nozzle.

Claim 8. (Withdrawn) A method of extruding a tubular multilayer preform of softened thermoplastic material with at least one strip of a different plastic material extending in the extrusion direction, wherein in an extrusion head a plurality of layers of the thermoplastic plastic material are passed over a part of the extrusion path in mutually concentric relationship by way of mutually separate flow paths and brought together, and the material for the strip is fed into an outer one of said layers upstream of the conjunction of the co-extruded flow portions.

Claim 9. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said strip of different plastic material is a viewing strip of translucent plastic material.

Claim 10. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein an inner carrier layer and first and second outer cover layers are co-extruded, and said strip is fed into the head such that it at least partially passes through only the cover layers.

Claim 11. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 8 wherein the preform is continuously extruded.

Claim 12. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 8 wherein the preform is discontinuously extruded.